

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES—Thursday, December 14, 2000

The House met at 4 p.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. PEASE).

DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC,
December 14, 2000.

I hereby appoint the Honorable EDWARD A. PEASE to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

J. DENNIS HASTERT,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Daniel P. Coughlin, offered the following prayer:

In past weeks, Lord, as a people we have questioned, argued, and been confused.

In recent days, Lord, as a nation we have sought direction, gone to court and accepted the judgment of leaders.

Knowing we are living through unique circumstances, grant to all patience. May wisdom be our guide. May history be our judge.

In the present moment, You have our attention, Lord.

You must show us now the way You would have us live, organize and govern.

May we who live this moment in our Nation's history prove reliable and the people of Your promise.

For without You we can do nothing credible or truly worth remembering.

You are Lord now and forever.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from Alaska (Mr. YOUNG) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Senate by Mr. Lundregan, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate has passed without amendment bills of the House of the following titles:

H.R. 1653. An act to complete the orderly withdrawal of the NOAA from the civil administration of the Pribilof Islands, Alaska, and to assist in the conservation of coral reefs, and for other purposes.

H.R. 5016. An act to redesignate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 514 Express Center Road in Chicago, Illinois, as the "J.T. Weeker Service Center".

H.R. 5210. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 200 South George Street in York, Pennsylvania, as the "George Atlee Goodling Post Office Building".

The message also announced that the Senate has passed with amendment in which the concurrence of the House is requested, a bill of the House of the following title:

H.R. 1023. An act for the relief of Richard W. Schaffert.

The message also announced that the Senate has passed a bill of the following title in which the concurrence of the House is requested:

S. 870. An act to amend the Inspector General Act of 1978 (5 U.S.C. App.) to increase the efficiency and accountability of Offices of Inspector General within Federal departments, and for other purposes.

The message also announced that the Senate agrees to the amendments of the House to the bill (S. 2943) "An Act to authorize additional assistance for international malaria control, and to provide for coordination and consultation in providing assistance under the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 with respect to malaria, HIV, and tuberculosis," with amendment.

APPOINTMENT OF ADDITIONAL MEMBERS TO ATTEND FUNERAL OF LATE HON. JULIAN C. DIXON

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 671, the Chair announces the Speaker's additional appointment of the following Members of the House to the Committee to attend the funeral of the late Julian C. Dixon.

Mr. TOWNS, New York;
Mrs. CLAYTON, North Carolina;
Ms. BROWN, Florida;
Mr. WATT, North Carolina.

NAVAJO NATION TRUST LAND LEASING ACT OF 2000

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to take from

the Speaker's table the Senate concurrent resolution (S. Con. Res. 161) to correct the enrollment of H.R. 5528 and ask for its immediate consideration in the House.

The Clerk read the title of the Senate concurrent resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Alaska?

There was no objection.

The Clerk read the Senate concurrent resolution, as follows:

S. CON. RES. 161

Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring), That the Clerk of the House of Representatives, in the enrollment of the bill (H.R. 5528) to authorize the construction of a Wakpa Sica Reconciliation Place in Fort Pierre, South Dakota, and for other purposes, shall make the following correction:

(1) Strike title XII and insert the following:

TITLE XII—NAVAJO NATION TRUST LAND LEASING

SEC. 1201. SHORT TITLE.

This title may be cited as the "Navajo Nation Trust Land Leasing Act of 2000".

SEC. 1202. CONGRESSIONAL FINDINGS AND DECLARATION OF PURPOSES.

(a) FINDINGS.—Recognizing the special relationship between the United States and the Navajo Nation and its members, and the Federal responsibility to the Navajo people, Congress finds that—

(1) the third clause of section 8, Article I of the United States Constitution provides that "The Congress shall have Power . . . to regulate Commerce . . . with Indian tribes", and, through this and other constitutional authority, Congress has plenary power over Indian affairs;

(2) Congress, through statutes, treaties, and the general course of dealing with Indian tribes, has assumed the responsibility for the protection and preservation of Indian tribes and their resources;

(3) the United States has a trust obligation to guard and preserve the sovereignty of Indian tribes in order to foster strong tribal governments, Indian self-determination, and economic self-sufficiency;

(4) pursuant to the first section of the Act of August 9, 1955 (25 U.S.C. 415), Congress conferred upon the Secretary of the Interior the power to promulgate regulations governing tribal leases and to approve tribal leases for tribes according to regulations promulgated by the Secretary;

(5) the Secretary of the Interior has promulgated the regulations described in paragraph (4) at part 162 of title 25, Code of Federal Regulations;

(6) the requirement that the Secretary approve leases for the development of Navajo trust lands has added a level of review and regulation that does not apply to the development of non-Indian land; and

(7) in the global economy of the 21st Century, it is crucial that individual leases of Navajo trust lands not be subject to Secretarial approval and that the Navajo Nation

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.